

Community- and locally-owned media are the lifeblood of social, political, entertainment and political lives of communities of all sizes. Increased consolidation of media ownership has already served to homogenize communities, at the expense of locally pertinent news and views. It's critical to encourage the development of locally owned and locally operated media outlets, and to resist commerce-based desires of conglomerates to expand. The role of the media in our modern democracy cannot be overemphasized, and allowing media owners to own more would be perilous for the media's role to foster critical and aware viewpoints. Please do not enable further consolidation of media ownership.